BEFORE THE DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:)	
Therese H. Yang, M.D.)	File No. 10-2003-142063
Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 64469))	
Respondent))	·

DECISION

The attached **Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order** is hereby adopted as the Decision and Order of the Division of Medical Quality of the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on <u>September 2</u>, 2005

IT IS SO ORDERED <u>August 3</u>, 2005.

MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA

By:

Ronald L. Moy, M.D

Chair

Panel B

Division of Medical Quality

	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General		
	2 RICHARD D. HENDLIN. State Bar No. 76742		
	3 California Department of Justice		
	4 San Diego, CA 92101		
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	San Diego, CA 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 645-2071		
	7 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		
	Attorneys for Complainant		
<u> </u>	BEFORE THE		
10	DIVISION OF MEDICAL QUALITY MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
1	STATE OF CAL	SUMER AFFAIRS LIFORNIA	
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	L Cos-N. 10 2000	
13	THERESE H YANG M.D.	Case No. 10-2003-142063	
14	14034 Kanch Trail Drive	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND	
15		DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G64469		
17	Respondent.		
18			
19	In the interest of a prompt and speedy	gottle 4 Cd !	
20	In the interest of a prompt and speedy settlement of this matter, consistent with the public interest and the responsibility of the Division CAC was a		
21	public interest and the responsibility of the Division of Medical Quality, Medical Board of California of the Department of Consumer Affairs, the parties hereby agree to the following		
22	Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order which will be submitted to the Division for		
23	approval and adoption as the final disposition of the Accusation.		
24			
25	PARTIES 1. David T. Thornton (Complainent): 41 P.		
26	Thomas (Complainant) is the Executive Director of the Medical		
27	Board of California. He brought this action solely in his official capacity and is represented in this matter by Bill Lockyer, Attorney General of the State of California, by Richard D. Hendlin,		
28	Deputy Attorney General.	tate of California, by Richard D. Hendlin,	

2. Respondent Therese H. Yang, M.D. (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Jonathan H. Rose, Esq., whose address is 3555 Fifth Avenue, Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92103.

3. On or about October 24, 1988, the Medical Board of California issued Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G64469 to Therese H. Yang, M.D. The Certificate was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought in Accusation No. 10-2003-142063 and will expire on September 30, 2006, unless renewed.

JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 10-2003-142063 was filed before the Division of Medical Quality (Division) for the Medical Board of California, Department of Consumer Affairs, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on July 13, 2004. Respondent timely filed her Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 10-2003-142063 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 10-2003-142063. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of her legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against her; the right to present evidence and to testify on her own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

CULPABILITY

- 8. Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 18-2002-137995, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate.
- 9. Without making any admissions and for the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation, and that Respondent hereby gives up her right to contest those charges.
- 10. Respondent agrees that her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate is subject to discipline and she agrees to be bound by the Division's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.
- 11. It is the intention of the parties, and by its approval of this Stipulation the Medical Board of California so finds, that no type of surgical service or invasive procedure gave rise to the probation set forth in the Disciplinary Order below. The Medical Board does not intend the reimbursement restrictions of any statute, including Welfare and Institutions Code Section 14124.12, to apply to Respondent by virtue of the probation imposed in this case. The Medical Board has determined that compelling circumstances warrant the continued reimbursement of any Medi-Cal claim submitted by Respondent during the probationary period.

CONTINGENCY

Quality. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Medical Board of California may communicate directly with the Division regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or her counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that she may not withdraw her agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Division considers and acts upon it. If the Division fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it

shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Division shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

- 13. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.
- 14. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties herein to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final and exclusive embodiment of the agreements of the parties.
- 15. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Division may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G64469 issued to Respondent Therese H. Yang, M.D., is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions.

1. <u>PRESCRIBING PRACTICES COURSE</u> Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in prescribing practices, at Respondent's expense, approved in advance by the Division or its designee. Failure to successfully complete the course during the first 6 months of probation is a violation of probation.

A prescribing practices course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Division or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have been approved by the Division or its designee had the course been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Division or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the course, or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

2. <u>MEDICAL RECORD KEEPING COURSE</u> Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in medical record keeping, at Respondent's expense, approved in advance by the Division or its designee. Failure to successfully complete the course during the first 6 months of probation is a violation of probation.

A medical record keeping course taken after the acts that gave rise to the charges in the Accusation, but prior to the effective date of the Decision may, in the sole discretion of the Division or its designee, be accepted towards the fulfillment of this condition if the course would have been approved by the Division or its designee had the course been taken after the effective date of this Decision.

Respondent shall submit a certification of successful completion to the Division or its designee not later than 15 calendar days after successfully completing the course, or not later than 15 calendar days after the effective date of the Decision, whichever is later.

3. <u>CLINICAL TRAINING PROGRAM</u> Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall enroll in a clinical training or educational program equivalent to the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program (PACE) offered at the University of California - San Diego School of Medicine ("Program").

The Program shall consist of a Comprehensive Assessment program comprised of a two-day assessment of Respondent's physical and mental health; basic clinical and communication skills common to all clinicians; and medical knowledge, skill and judgment pertaining to Respondent's specialty or sub-specialty, and at minimum, a 40 hour program of clinical education in the area of practice in which Respondent was alleged to be deficient and which takes into account data obtained from the assessment, Decision(s), Accusation(s), and any other information that the Division or its designee deems relevant. Respondent shall pay all expenses associated with the clinical training program.

 Based on Respondent's performance and test results in the assessment and clinical education, the Program will advise the Division or its designee of its recommendation(s) for the scope and length of any additional educational or clinical training, treatment for any medical condition, treatment for any psychological condition, or anything else affecting Respondent's practice of medicine. Respondent shall comply with Program recommendations.

At the completion of any additional educational or clinical training, Respondent shall submit to and pass an examination. The Program's determination whether or not Respondent passed the examination or successfully completed the Program shall be binding.

Respondent shall complete the Program not later than six months after

Respondent's initial enrollment unless the Division or its designee agrees in writing to a later time for completion.

Failure to participate in and complete successfully all phases of the clinical training program outlined above is a violation of probation.

If Respondent fails to complete the clinical training program within the designated time period, Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine within 72 hours after being notified by the Division or its designee that Respondent failed to complete the clinical training program.

4. <u>MONITORING - PRACTICE</u> Within 30 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent shall submit to the Division or its designee for prior approval as a practice monitor, the name and qualifications of one or more licensed physicians and surgeons whose licenses are valid and in good standing, and who are preferably American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS) certified. A monitor shall have no prior or current business or personal relationship with Respondent, or other relationship that could reasonably be expected to compromise the ability of the monitor to render fair and unbiased reports to the Division, including, but not limited to, any form of bartering, shall be in Respondent's field of practice, and must agree to serve as Respondent's monitor. Respondent shall pay all monitoring costs.

The Division or its designee shall provide the approved monitor with copies of the Decision and Accusation, and a proposed monitoring plan. Within 15 calendar days of receipt of the Decision, Accusation, and proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a signed

 statement that the monitor has read the Decision and Accusation, fully understands the role of a monitor, and agrees or disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan. If the monitor disagrees with the proposed monitoring plan, the monitor shall submit a revised monitoring plan with the signed statement.

Within 60 calendar days of the effective date of this Decision, and continuing for the first three years of probation, Respondent's practice shall be monitored by the approved monitor. Respondent shall make all records available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises by the monitor at all times during business hours, and shall retain the records for the entire term of probation.

The monitor shall submit a quarterly written report to the Division or its designee which includes an evaluation of Respondent's performance, indicating whether Respondent's practices are within the standards of practice of medicine or billing, or both, and whether Respondent is practicing medicine safely, billing appropriately or both.

It shall be the sole responsibility of Respondent to ensure that the monitor submits the quarterly written reports to the Division or its designee within 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.

If the monitor resigns or is no longer available, Respondent shall, within 5 calendar days of such resignation or unavailability, submit to the Division or its designee, for prior approval, the name and qualifications of a replacement monitor who will be assuming that responsibility within 15 calendar days. If Respondent fails to obtain approval of a replacement monitor within 60 days of the resignation or unavailability of the monitor, Respondent shall be suspended from the practice of medicine until a replacement monitor is approved and prepared to assume immediate monitoring responsibility. Respondent shall cease the practice of medicine within 3 calendar days after being so notified by the Division or designee.

In lieu of a monitor, Respondent may participate in a professional enhancement program equivalent to the one offered by the Physician Assessment and Clinical Education Program at the University of California, San Diego School of Medicine, that includes, at minimum, quarterly chart review, semi-annual practice assessment, and semi-annual review of

professional growth and education. Respondent shall participate in the professional enhancement program at Respondent's expense during the term of probation.

Failure to maintain all records, or to make all appropriate records available for immediate inspection and copying on the premises, or to comply with this condition as outlined above is a violation of probation.

5. NOTIFICATION Prior to engaging in the practice of medicine, the Respondent shall provide a true copy of the Decision and Accusation to the Chief of Staff or the Chief Executive Officer at every hospital where privileges or membership are extended to Respondent, at any other facility where Respondent engages in the practice of medicine, including all physician and locum tenens registries or other similar agencies, and to the Chief Executive Officer at every insurance carrier which extends malpractice insurance coverage to Respondent. Respondent shall submit proof of compliance to the Division or its designee within 15 calendar days.

This condition shall apply to any change(s) in hospitals, other facilities or insurance carrier.

- 6. <u>SUPERVISION OF PHYSICIAN ASSISTANTS</u> During probation, Respondent is prohibited from supervising physician assistants.
- 7. <u>OBEY ALL LAWS</u> Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws, all rules governing the practice of medicine in California, and remain in full compliance with any court ordered criminal probation, payments and other orders.
- 8. QUARTERLY DECLARATIONS Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations under penalty of perjury on forms provided by the Division, stating whether there has been compliance with all the conditions of probation. Respondent shall submit quarterly declarations not later than 10 calendar days after the end of the preceding quarter.
- 9. <u>PROBATION UNIT COMPLIANCE</u> Respondent shall comply with the Division's probation unit. Respondent shall, at all times, keep the Division informed of Respondent's business and residence addresses. Changes of such addresses shall be immediately communicated in writing to the Division or its designee. Under no circumstances shall a post

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office box serve as an address of record, except as allowed by Business and Professions Code section 2021(b).

Respondent shall not engage in the practice of medicine in Respondent's place of residence. Respondent shall maintain a current and renewed California physician's and surgeon's license.

Respondent shall immediately inform the Division, or its designee, in writing, of travel to any areas outside the jurisdiction of California which lasts, or is contemplated to last, more than 30 calendar days.

- 10. <u>INTERVIEW WITH THE DIVISION, OR ITS DESIGNEE</u> Respondent shall be available in person for interviews either at Respondent's place of business or at the probation unit office, with the Division or its designee, upon request at various intervals, and either with or without prior notice throughout the term of probation.
- Respondent should leave the State of California to reside or to practice, Respondent shall notify the Division or its designee in writing 30 calendar days prior to the dates of departure and return. Non-practice is defined as any period of time exceeding 30 calendar days in which Respondent is not engaging in any activities defined in Sections 2051 and 2052 of the Business and Professions Code.

All time spent in an intensive training program outside the State of California which has been approved by the Division or its designee shall be considered as time spent in the practice of medicine within the State. A Board-ordered suspension of practice shall not be considered as a period of non-practice. Periods of temporary or permanent residence or practice outside California will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term. Periods of temporary or permanent residence or practice outside California will relieve Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the probationary terms and conditions with the exception of this condition and the following terms and conditions of probation: Obey All Laws and Probation Unit Compliance.

Respondent's license shall be automatically cancelled if Respondent's periods of temporary or permanent residence or practice outside California total two years. However, Respondent's license shall not be cancelled as long as Respondent is residing and practicing medicine in another state of the United States and is on active probation with the medical licensing authority of that state, in which case the two year period shall begin on the date probation is completed or terminated in that state.

12. FAILURE TO PRACTICE MEDICINE - CALIFORNIA RESIDENT

In the event Respondent resides in the State of California and for any reason Respondent stops practicing medicine in California, Respondent shall notify the Division or its designee in writing within 30 calendar days prior to the dates of non-practice and return to practice. Any period of non-practice within California, as defined in this condition, will not apply to the reduction of the probationary term and does not relieve Respondent of the responsibility to comply with the terms and conditions of probation. Non-practice is defined as any period of time exceeding 30 calendar days in which Respondent is not engaging in any activities defined in sections 2051 and 2052 of the Business and Professions Code.

All time spent in an intensive training program which has been approved by the Division or its designee shall be considered time spent in the practice of medicine. For purposes of this condition, non-practice due to a Board-ordered suspension or in compliance with any other condition of probation, shall not be considered a period of non-practice.

Respondent's license shall be automatically cancelled if Respondent resides in California and for a total of two years, fails to engage in California in any of the activities described in Business and Professions Code sections 2051 and 2052.

- 13. <u>COMPLETION OF PROBATION</u> Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's certificate shall be fully restored.
- 14. <u>VIOLATION OF PROBATION</u> Failure to fully comply with any term or condition of probation is a violation of probation. If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Division, after giving Respondent notice and the opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If an Accusation, Petition to

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Revoke Probation, or an Interim Suspension Order is filed against Respondent during probation, the Division shall have continuing jurisdiction until the matter is final, and the period of probation shall be extended until the matter is final.

15. LICENSE SURRENDER Following the effective date of this Decision, if Respondent ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may request the voluntary surrender of Respondent's license. The Division reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether or not to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender, Respondent shall within 15 calendar days deliver Respondent's wallet and wall certificate to the Division or its designee and Respondent shall no longer practice medicine. Respondent will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation and the surrender of Respondent's license shall be deemed disciplinary action. If Respondent re-applies for a medical license, the application shall be treated as a petition for reinstatement of a revoked certificate.

ACCEPTANCE

I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully discussed it with my attorney, Jonathan H. Rose, Esq. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Division of Medical Quality, Medical Board of California.

DATED: 6-7-05

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THERESE H. YANG.

Respondent

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I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Therese H. Yang, M.D. the terms 1 and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary 2 3 Order. I approve its form and content. DATED 5 he In an 6 7 Attorney for Respondent 8 9 **ENDORSEMENT** The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully 10 submitted for consideration by the Division of Medical Quality, Medical Board of California of 11 12 the Department of Consumer Affairs. 13 DATED: June 7, 2005 14 15 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California 16 17 18 Deputy Attorney General 19 Attorneys for Complainant 20 21 DOJ Matter ID: SD2004800403 22 23 24 25 26 27

Exhibit A
Accusation No. 10-2003-142063

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1	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California	FILED STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
2	THOMAS S. LAZAR, State Bar No. 120621 Deputy Attorney General	MEDICAL BOARD OF CALIFORNIA		
3	California Department of Justice 110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100	BY MCC16 MORE ANALYS		
4	San Diego, California 92101 P.O. Box 85266			
5	San Diego, California 92186-5266 Telephone: (619) 645-2117			
6	Facsimile: (619) 645-2061			
7	Attorneys for Complainant			
8				
9				
10	DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS			
11				
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No.10-2003-142063		
13	THERESE HUNLEY YANG, M.D.	ACCUSATION		
14	AKA THERESE MARIE HUNLEY AKA THERESA MARIE VINCENT	(Cal. Gov. Code, § 11503.)		
15	10201 Mission Gorge Road Santee, CA 92071	-		
16	Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate			
17	No. G 64469,			
18	Respondent.			
19	Complainant David T. Thornton,	as causes for disciplinary action, alleges:		
20	PARTIES			
21	1. Complainant is the Interim Executive Director of the Medical Board of			
22	California, Department of Consumer Affairs, State of California (hereinafter the "Board"), and			
23	makes and files this Accusation solely in his office	cial capacity as such and not otherwise.		
24	2. At all times mentioned her	ein, Therese Hunley Yang, M.D. (hereinafter		
25	"respondent"), has been licensed by the Board under Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.			
26	G 64469. Said Certificate was issued by the Boa			
27	and effect, and will expire on September 30, 2004			
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JURISDICTION

This Accusation is brought before the Division of Medical Quality ("Division") of the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the California Business and Professions Code ("Code") unless otherwise indicated.

- 3. Section 2227 of the Code provides that a licensee who is found guilty under the Medical Practice Act may have his license revoked, suspended for a period not to exceed one year, placed on probation and required to pay the costs of probation monitoring, or such other action taken in relation to discipline as the Division deems proper.
 - 4. Section 2234 of the Code provides:

"The Division of Medical Quality shall take action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. In addition to other provisions of this article, unprofessional conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- "(a) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, assisting in or abetting the violation of, or conspiring to violate any provision of this chapter [Chapter 5, the Medical Practice Act].
 - "(b) Gross negligence.
- "(c) Repeated negligent acts. To be repeated, there must be two or more negligent acts or omissions. An initial negligent act or omission followed by a separate and distinct departure from the applicable standard of care shall constitute repeated negligent acts.
- "(1) An initial negligent diagnosis followed by an act or omission medically appropriate for that negligent diagnosis of the patient shall constitute a single negligent act.
- "(2) When the standard of care requires a change in the diagnosis, act, or omission that constitutes the negligent act described in paragraph (1), including, but not limited to, a reevaluation of the diagnosis or a change in treatment, and the licensee's conduct departs from the applicable standard of care, each departure constitutes a separate and distinct breach of the standard of care.

"(d) Incompetence.

- "(e) The commission of any act involving dishonesty or corruption which is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of a physician and surgeon.
- "(f) Any action or conduct which would have warranted the denial of a certificate."
 - 5. Section 2238 provides:

"A violation of any federal statute or federal regulation or any of the statutes or regulations of this state regulating dangerous drugs or controlled substances constitutes unprofessional conduct."

6. Section 2241 provides:

"Unless otherwise provided by this section, the prescribing, selling, furnishing, giving away, or administering or offering to prescribe, sell, furnish, give away, or administer any of the drugs or compounds mentioned in Section 2239 to an addict or habitue constitutes unprofessional conduct.

"If the drugs or compounds are administered or applied by a licensed physician and surgeon or by a registered nurse acting under his or her instruction and supervision, this section shall not apply to any of the following cases:

- "(a) Emergency treatment of a patient whose addiction is complicated by the presence of incurable disease, serious accident or injury, or the infirmities attendant upon age.
- "(b) Treatment of addicts or habitues in state licensed institutions where the patient is kept under restraint and control, or in city or county jails or state prisons.
- "(c) Treatment of addicts as provided for by Section 11217.5 of the Health and Safety Code."
 - 7. Section 2242 provides:
- "(a) Prescribing, dispensing, or furnishing dangerous drugs as defined in Section 4022 without a good faith prior examination and medical indication

therefor, constitutes unprofessional conduct.

- "(b) No licensee shall be found to have committed unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this section if, at the time the drugs were prescribed, dispensed, or furnished, any of the following applies:
- "(1) The licensee was a designated physician and surgeon or podiatrist serving in the absence of the patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist, as the case may be, and if the drugs were prescribed, dispensed, or furnished only as necessary to maintain the patient until the return of his or her practitioner, but in any case no longer than 72 hours.
- "(2) The licensee transmitted the order for the drugs to a registered nurse or to a licensed vocational nurse in an inpatient facility, and if both of the following conditions exist:
- "(A) The practitioner had consulted with the registered nurse or licensed vocational nurse who had reviewed the patient's records.
- "(B) The practitioner was designated as the practitioner to serve in the absence of the patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist, as the case may be.
- "(3) The licensee was a designated practitioner serving in the absence of the patient's physician and surgeon or podiatrist, as the case may be, and was in possession of or had utilized the patient's records and ordered the renewal of a medically indicated prescription for an amount not exceeding the original prescription in strength or amount or for more than one refilling.
- "(4) The licensee was acting in accordance with Section 120582 of the Health and Safety Code."
 - 8. Section 2266 of the Code provides:

"The failure of a physician and surgeon to maintain adequate and accurate records relating to the provision of services to their patients constitutes unprofessional conduct."

12.

- 10. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that in any order issued in resolution of a disciplinary proceeding, a board may request that the administrative law judge direct a licensee found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case, including charges imposed by the Attorney General. Under section 125.3, subdivision (c), a certified copy of the actual costs or a good faith estimate of costs where actual costs are not available, including investigative and enforcement costs, and charges imposed by the Attorney General, up to the date of the hearing, signed by the designated representative of the entity bringing the proceeding shall be *prima facie* evidence of the reasonable costs of investigation and prosecution of the case.
- Section 14124.12 of the Welfare and Institutions Code provides, in pertinent part, that:
 - "(a) Upon receipt of written notice from the Medical Board of California, the Osteopathic Medical Board of California, or the Board of Dental Examiners of California, that a licensee's license has been placed on probation as a result of a disciplinary action, the Department may not reimburse any Medi-Cal claim for the type of surgical service or invasive procedure that gave rise to the probation, including any dental surgery or invasive procedure, that was performed by the licensee on or after the effective date of probation and until the termination of all probationary terms and conditions or until the probationary period has ended, whichever occurs first. This section shall apply except in any case in which the relevant licensing board determines that compelling circumstances warrant the continued reimbursement during the probationary period of any Medi-Cal claim, including any claim for dental services, as so described. In such a case, the Department shall continue to reimburse the licensee for all procedures, except

for those invasive or surgical procedures for which the licensee was placed on probation."

CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

This Accusation is also made in reference to the following controlled substances and dangerous drugs:

- 12. "OxyContin," a brand name for oxycodone hydrochloride, is a Schedule II controlled substance under Health and Safety Code section 11055(b)(1)(N) and a dangerous drug within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code section 4022.
- 13. "OxyIR," a brand name for oxycodone hydrochloride immediate release oral capsules 5 mg., is a Schedule II controlled substance under Health and Safety Code section 11055(b)(1)(N) and a dangerous drug within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code section 4022.
- 14. "Oxyfast," a brand name for oxycodone hydrochloride immediate release oral concentrate solution, 20 mg/1 ml, is a Schedule II controlled substance under Health and Safety Code section 11055(b)(1)(N) and a dangerous drug within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code section 4022.
- 15. "Dexedrine," a brand name for dextroamphetamine sulfate, is a Schedule II controlled substance under Health and Safety Code section 11055(d)(1) and a dangerous drug within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code section 4022.
- 16. "Vicodin," a brand name for hydrocodone bitartrate and acetaminophen, is a Schedule III controlled substance under Health and Safety Code section 11056 and a dangerous drug within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code section 4022.
- 17. "Vicoprofen," a brand name for hydrocodone bitartrate and ibuprofen, is a Schedule III controlled substance under Health and Safety Code section 11056 and a dangerous drug within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code section 4022.
- 18. "Ultram," a brand name for tramadol hydrochloride, is s dangerous drug within the meaning of California Business and Professions Code section 4022.

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FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

(Gross Negligence)

19. Respondent has subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 64469 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2234, subdivision (b), of the Code, in that she has committed gross negligence in her care and treatment of patients R.G., R.I., A.V., L.B., and D.B., as more particularly alleged hereinafter:

Patient R.G.

- (a) Between on or about June 4, 1998, and May 30, 2002, R.G. was respondent's patient. Between June 18, 1998 and December 1, 1998, respondent prescribed increasing doses of OxyContin and OxyIR to patient R.G. such that, by that latter date, respondent was prescribing 800 mg of OxyContin and 50 mg of OxyIR per day to patient R.G. On or about December 1, 1998, patient R.G. was reported to be unkempt, unshaved and moaning and, even though respondent's diagnosis for patient R.G. on that same date was "abuse of pain meds," she nevertheless continued to prescribe excessive doses of OxyContin and OxyIR to him.
- (b) On or about June 3, 1999, respondent was prescribing 640 mg of OxyContin per day and up to twenty 5 mg OxyIR twice per day to patient R.G. On or about June 28, 1999, she increased patient R.G.'s OxyIR prescription to thirty 5 mg per day.
- (c) Respondent continued to prescribe excessive doses of OxyContin and OxyIR to patient R.G. without sufficiently determining if the medication was indicated or helpful or whether patient R.G. may be abusing or diverting the medication.
- (d) On or about November 9, 2000, respondent diagnosed patient R.G. as suffering from "drug dependency" but nevertheless continued to prescribe excessive doses of OxyContin and OxyIR to him.

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- (e) Respondent's medical records for patient R.G. contain no documentation of an adequate history or physical examination. On the single occasion that a detailed addiction history was taken, patient R.G. acknowledged previous intravenous drug use and, apparently, also has a positive family history of addiction. Notwithstanding patient R.G.'s repeated acknowledgment of "abuse" or "dependency," respondent continued to prescribe excessive doses of OxyContin and OxyIR to him. The doses of OxyContin and OxyIR that respondent prescribed to patient R.G. were 5 to 10 times the most common doses used in the community. Notwithstanding numerous indications that the doses of OxyContin and OxyIR were excessive and that patient R.G. was doing poorly as a result, respondent continued to prescribe excessive doses of OxyContin and OxyIR to him.
- (f) Respondent committed gross negligence in her care and treatment of patient R.G. which included, but was not limited to, the following:
- (1) Failing to maintain adequate and accurate medical records for patient R.G.;
- (2) Failing to examine patient R.G. after multiple falls, or to relate his falls to his excessive use of narcotics;
- (3) Failing to evaluate patient R.G.'s symptoms in an objective manner;
- (4) Prescribing excessive doses of OxyContin and OxyIR to patient R.G.; and
- (5) Continuing to prescribe controlled substances to patient R.G. notwithstanding definitive evidence that he was addicted to controlled substances.

Patient R.I.

(g) Between on or about June 2, 1997, and on or about May 19, 2002,
R.I. was respondent's patient. Many of respondent's medical records for patient
R.I. are illegible or indecipherable. During the period of time that patient R.I. was

under respondent's care, respondent prescribed excessive doses of oxycodone to patient R.I.

- (h) On or about June 2, 1997, patient R.I. was taking OxyContin 10 mg. 1-2 times a day which respondent later increased to 3 times a day. On or about August 19, 1997, patient R.I. is seen by respondent and complained of pain in the neck radiating to the arm and hand and "severe" pain in the leg and ankle. There was no documented precipitating event. Patient R.I. was reportedly depressed and having bad dreams because of increased pain. Respondent increased patient R.I. dosage of OxyContin 10 mg. to 3 tablets in the morning, 2 in the afternoon, and 3-5 tablets at night. Respondent's documentation of her skeletal physical examination of patient R.I. on this date is illegible.
- (i) On or about July 20, 1998, patient R.I. reportedly cut both of his wrists in a suicide attempt. Ten days later, on or about July 30, 1998, respondent increased patient R.I.'s prescription for OxyContin to 100 mg. twice a day and OxyIR to four a day. On or about August 27, 1998, respondent increased patient R.I.'s prescription to OxyContin to 160 mg. twice a day, and noted that six 5 mg. OxyIR twice a day were not helping. On or about September 3, 1998, respondent increased patient R.I. dose of OxyContin again. On or about September 24, 1998, patient R.I. reportedly was still suffering from suicidal ideation and was experiencing auditory hallucinations.
- (j) On or about November 12, 1998, patient R.I. reportedly cut his wrists while in the patient waiting room at respondent's office and was found unresponsive on the floor with tremors and fluttering eyelids and appeared to be talking to someone in the distance. Respondent's diagnosis for patient R.I. on that date was, among other things, "seizure disorder probably due to medications patients saw him take more OxyContin/IR." An ambulance transported patient R.I. to the emergency room. Notwithstanding this incident, respondent continued

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Patient A.V.

- (o) Between on or about December 18, 2000, and on or about May 16, 2002, A.V. was respondent's patient. As evidenced by her medical records, patient A.V. was clearly an extremely troubled young woman with a severe psychiatric illness.
- (p) On or about December 18, 2000, on a health history form completed by patient A.V., she presented with numerous health complaints and listed her then current medications as Dilaudid (a strong, highly addictive opiate), OxyContin, Ativan (a controlled sedative with substantial addictive potential), Prozac (a psychiatric drug used for depression and anxiety), Depakote (used to treat seizures and psychiatric illness), Lotrel (high blood pressure medication), doxycycline (an antibiotic), and Rocephin (an injection used for serious infections). On this form patient A.V. also stated that "I am slowly attempting to decrease amount of pain medication I take."
- (q) Many of respondent's medical records for patient A.V. are illegible or indecipherable. During the period of time that patient A.V. was under respondent's care, respondent conducted numerous superficial evaluations with inadequate histories and physical examinations.
- (r) Respondent committed gross negligence in her care and treatment of patient A.V. which included, but was not limited to, the following:
- (1) Failing to take and record a comprehensive history in narrative form for patient A.V.;
- (2) Failing to perform, and document the findings from, a comprehensive physical examination of patient A.V.;
- (3) Failing to maintain adequate and accurate medical records for patient A.V.;
- (4) Prescribing excessive doses of controlled substances to patient A.V. without an examination;

- (5) Prescribing an excessive amount of Lorazepam (210) in one prescription to patient A.V.;
- (6) Excessive treatment and prescribing of antibiotics, in erratic patterns, for illnesses that patient A.V. did not have;
 - (7) Prescribing Cholestyramine to patient A.V. for Lyme arthritis;
- (8) Prescribing Enbrel, which is indicated only for severe rheumatoid arthritis, which patient A.V. did not have by history, examination, or laboratory tests; and
- (9) Prescribing Lariam, which is for prophylaxis and treatment of malaria, in the absence of any documented history of travel to endemic malaria areas, to patient A.V. who had a history of bipolar illness.

Patient L.B.

- (s) Between on or about November 16, 1997, and on or about July 17, 2003, L.B. was respondent's patient. Many of respondent's medical records for patient L.B. are grossly inadequate, illegible, and disorganized.
- (t) On or about August 23, 1996, another physician noted that patient L.B. had a history of "heroin abuse in the past" which included opiate use. Respondent first saw patient L.B. on or about November 24, 1997, and, on that date, it was noted that patient L.B. "has history intravenous drug abuse patient very adamant on keeping drug use well monitored."
- (u) On or about August 13, 1998, a nurse practitioner added a diagnosis of narcotic abuse which respondent countersigned.
- (v) On or about September 21, 1998, patient L.B.'s chief complaint was "[w]ants drug reduction: Addicted to pills panic, sweats, chills need to have pills." Respondent's assessment of patient L.B. on that date was, among other things, "Drug WD [withdrawal]" and her plan was, among other things, to "Leave here for weaning" and to change patient L.B.'s wife's prescription to OxyContin so that patient L.B. did not have access.

SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION

(Repeated Negligent Acts)

- 20. Respondent has further subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 64469 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2234, subdivision (c), of the Code, in that she has committed repeated negligent acts in her care and treatment of patients R.G., R.I., A.V., L.B., and D.B., as more particularly alleged hereinafter:
 - (a) Paragraph 19, above, is hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.
 - (b) Respondent committed repeated negligent acts in her care and treatment of patients R.G., R.I., A.V., L.B. and D.B., which included, but was not limited to, the following:

Patient R.G.

- (1) Paragraphs 19(f)(1), 19(f)(2), 19(f)(3), 19(f)(4), and 19(f)(5), above, are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein; and
- (2) Prescribing antibiotics for patient R.G. for sinusitis without an adequate history or examination.

Patient R.I.

- (3) Paragraphs 19(n)(1), 19(n)(2), 19(n)(3), 19(n)(4), 19(n)(5) and 19(n)(6), above, are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein;
- (4) Respondent prescribed controlled substances to patient R.I. without a valid medical indication therefor; and
- (5) Respondent prescribed testosterone for patient R.I. who had normal levels and no listed symptoms to justify the treatment.

Patient A.V.

(6) Paragraphs 19(r)(1), 19(r)(2), 19(r)(3), 19(r)(4), 19(r)(5), 19(r)(6), 19(r)(7), 19(r)(8) and 19(r)(9), above, are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein;

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1 Notwithstanding the fact that they were addicts or habitues, (b) 2 respondent prescribed controlled substances and dangerous drugs to patients R.G. 3 and L.B. 4 SIXTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION 5 (Violation of Drug Statutes) 6 Respondent has further subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate 24. No. G 64469 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2238 of 7 the Code, in that she has violated drug statutes in her care and treatment of patients R.G., R.I., 8 A.V., L.B., and D.B., as more particularly alleged hereinafter: Paragraphs 19, 20, 22, and 23, above, are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein. 10 11 SEVENTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION 12 (Prescribing Without a Good Faith Prior Examination -13 and Medical Indication Therefor) 14 25. Respondent has further subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 64469 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2241 of 15 16 the Code, in that she is guilty of prescribing, dispensing, or furnishing dangerous drugs as defined in Section 4022 without a good faith prior examination and medical indication therefor, 17 in her care and treatment of patients R.I., A.V., L.B., and D.B., as more particularly alleged 18 hereinafter: Paragraphs 19 and 20, above, are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set 19 20 forth herein. 21 EIGHTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINARY ACTION 22 (Failure to Maintain Adequate and Accurate Records) 23 26. Respondent has further subjected her Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No. G 64469 to disciplinary action under sections 2227 and 2234, as defined by section 2266 of 24 25 the Code, in that she failed to maintain adequate and accurate records relating to the provision of 26 services for patients R.G., R.I., A.V., L.B., and D.B., as more particularly alleged hereinafter: Paragraphs 19 and 20, above, are hereby incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein. ///

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1	<u>PRAYER</u>
2	WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters
3	alleged herein and, following the hearing, that the Division of Medical Quality of the Medical
4	Board of California issue its Decision and Order:
5	Revoking or suspending Physician's and Surgeon's Certificate No.
6	G 64469 heretofore issued by the Board to Therese Hunley Yang, M.D.;
7	2. Revoking, suspending or denying approval for Therese Hunley
8	Yang, M.D., to supervise physician's assistants pursuant to section 3527 of the
9	Code;
10	3. Ordering Therese Hunley Yang, M.D., to pay the Board the
11	reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, and, if placed
12	on probation, the costs of probation monitoring;
13	4. Taking such other and further action as the Division deems

necessary and proper.

DATED: July 13, 2004

Interim Executive Director Medical Board of California
Department of Consumer Affairs
State of California

Complainant

TSL/

03573160SD2004800403